

REMARKS

Claims 77-125 are pending. Upon entry of this response, claims 78-92 and 94-125 will be pending, claims 78, 80-92, 94, and 125 having been amended and claims 77 and 93 canceled in this response. Claims 119-124 remain withdrawn.

Claim Objections

Claims 77 and 125 were objected to as allegedly having informalities requiring correction, regarding the word “using.” Claim 77 has been canceled, rendering its objection moot. Claim 125 has been amended to recite the claim language suggested in the Office Action, page 2, item 3. Accordingly, the objections are believed to have been overcome. Withdrawal of the objections is requested.

112, 1st Paragraph, Rejections

Claims 77-118 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claim 77 has been canceled, rendering its rejection moot. Claim 78-118 have been amended to depend either directly or indirectly from claim 125. Accordingly, the rejections are believed to have been overcome. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

112, 2nd Paragraph, Rejection

Claim 93 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 93 has been canceled, rendering the rejection moot. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

102(b) Rejections

Claims 77-118 and 125 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Yu (US Statutory Invention Registration H766). Claim 77 has been canceled, rendering its rejection moot. Applicants traverse the remaining rejections.

Claim 125 as amended is directed to a method of producing a polyester, which has a glycol component consisting mainly of at least one of ethylene glycol, 1,3-propanediol, 1,4-

butanediol, and 1,4-cyclohexane dimethanol, by contacting an acid component with an alcohol component in the presence of a catalyst, which comprises at least one metal-containing component and an organic component.

Yu neither teaches nor suggests the production of the claimed polyester in the presence of the claimed catalyst.

The Office Action mistakenly asserts that Yu discloses the claimed polyester, having the claimed glycol component, produced in the presence the claimed catalyst in Yu, col. 3, ll. 29-35. Yu discloses a polyesteramide characterized by Yu's Formula (I), which includes a polymeric diol. See, e.g., Yu, col. 2, ll. 41-64. However, the polyesteramide of Yu is *not* produced in the presence of Applicants' claimed catalyst. On the contrary, the Yu catalyst is an esterification catalyst to synthesize the polymeric diol, which is then used to produce the polyesteramide. See, e.g., Yu, col. 7, ll. 7-24. The esterification catalyst is *not* the same as Applicants' claimed catalyst.

The Office Action further mistakenly asserts that Yu discloses the claimed polyester, having the claimed glycol component, produced in the presence of the claimed catalyst in Yu, col. 5, ll. 21-63; col. 6, ll. 3-8. The Yu polyester is a polyarylate, i.e., an aromatic polyester, composed of aromatic dicarboxylic acid (TPA and/or IPA) and aromatic glycol, produced in the presence of a catalyst. See, e.g., Yu, col. 3, l. 67 – col. 6, l. 7. However, the aromatic polyester of Yu produced in the presence of the Yu catalyst is *not* the same as Applicants' claimed polyester. On the contrary, the Yu polyester has an aromatic glycol, such as a bisphenol compound, unlike the claimed glycol component of Applicants' claimed polyester.

Moreover, there is neither teaching nor suggestion in Yu to use its polyarylate catalyst to produce the polyesteramide. Therefore, the combination of Applicants' claimed catalyst and Applicants' claimed polyester is not disclosed in Yu. Such a combination is found only in Applicants' invention.

For at least the above reasons, claim 125 and its dependent claims are not anticipated by Yu. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

CONCLUSION

The claims are believed to be allowable. Applicants request that the response be entered and considered by the Examiner.

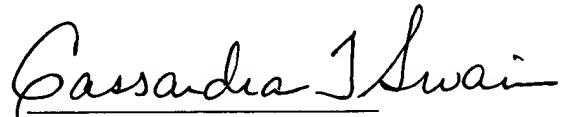
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-220-4200 to discuss any issues regarding this application.

The Office is authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600 referencing Docket No. 11197/5.

Respectfully submitted,

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